

Message Text

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64

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07

H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01

SPC-03 SS-15 USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-15 EB-11 COME-00

INT-08 SCEM-02 OMB-01 TRSE-00 DRC-01 /178 W

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R 101444Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3869

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 26380

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENGR, JA, FR

SUBJECT: ENERGY DISCUSSIONS DURING TANAKA'S PARIS VISIT

REF: TOKYO 13091 (NOTAL)

1. GOF OIL OFFICIALS IN FOREIGN MINISTRY AND MINISTRY INDUSTRY HAVE TOLD US THAT EXCHANGES ON ENERGY DURING TANAKA PARIS VISIT LIMITED LARGELY TO GENERALITIES, AND CONTAINED NO NEW BILATERAL INITIATIVES SUCH AS THAT LAUNCHED IN BONN. TONE OF DISCUSSIONS WAS SATISFACTION WITH PROSPECTS FOR JOINT PROJECTS LAUNCHED TO DATE (SOME AS MEMBERS OF INTERNATIONAL GROUPS, AS IN PERSIAN GULF OIL CONCESSIONS, SOME BILATERAL AS IN NIGER URANIUM OR IRAQ OIL PROJECTS), AND HOPE FOR DEVELOPMENT OF FURTHER COOPERATION. JAPANESE SIDE EXPRESSED ITS KNOWN RESERVATIONS ABOUT ANY OIL CONSUMER COOPERATION WHICH WOULD PROVOKE PRODUCERS.

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2. DEPUTY DIRECTOR MINISTRY INDUSTRY OIL OFFICE FRAGONARD, COMMENT-

IN ON GOJ POLICY, SAID THAT JAPANESE CLEARLY CONCERNED OVER THEIR PETROLEUM/ENERGY SITUATION, AND THAT THEIR ANXIETY ON THIS SCORE ACCOUNTED FOR THEIR RAISING THE ISSUE IN BILATERALS WITH GOF. HE BELIEVES GOJ NOW IN PROCESS OF DEVELOPING ENERGY POLICY AND THAT IMPORTANT STEPS WILL BE TAKEN IN NEXT YEAR OR TWO. CENTRAL TO GOJ CONCERNS, ACCORDING FRAGONARD, IS FEAR THAT INTERNATIONAL COMPANIES, IF PETROLEUM SUPPLIES AVAILABLE TO THEM IN FUTURE ARE LESS THAN ADEQUATE, WILL CUT BACK JAPANESE MARKET FIRST BECAUSE OF THEIR GREATER INTERESTS IN U.S. AND EUROPE. THEY WORRIED THAT "U.S.-UK RECOMMENDATIONS" TO JAPANESE THAT THEY CONTINUE TO PUT EMPHASIS ON WORKING WITH OIL COMPANIES AND DEVELOPING COOPERATION WITH OTHER CONSUMERS WILL NOT WORK. ACCORDING FRAGONARD, JAPANESE CONSIDER ACID TEST FOR THIS APPROACH TO BE SUCCESSFUL NEGOTIATION OF OIL SHARING SCHEME WHICH TAKES THEIR NEEDS INTO ACCOUNT. GOJ ALSO AWARE, HOWEVER, THAT DIRECT DEALINGS WITH PRODUCERS CANNOT ALONE ASSURE THEM OF ADEQUATE SUPPLIES. GOJ CONSEQUENTLY SEEKING POSSIBLE MEANS TO EXERCISE GREATER CONTROL AND LEVERAGE OVER IMPORTERS BY ESTABLISHMENT OF STRICT OIL IMPORT REGIME OR NATIONAL IMPORTING MONOPOLY. FRAGONARD SAID JAPANESE HAD ASKED FRENCH NUMBER OF QUESTIONS ABOUT HEAVILY REGULATED FRENCH OIL REGIME, AND PREDICTED THAT GOJ WAS MOVING IN SIMILAR DIRECTION. COMMENT: WHILE FRAGONARD'S COMMENTS REFLECT GOF LINE THAT IS OIL IMPORT REGIME IS DESIRABLE MODEL FOR OTHER CONSUMER STATES, NAKASONE SPEECH (PARA 6 REFTTEL) INDICATES THAT GOJ MAY BE CONSIDERING FRENCH MODEL SERIOUSLY.

IRWIN

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